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Sent: Saturday, May 02, 2009 8:59 AM
To: All-Emory@EMORY.EDU
Subject: Emory community update 050209 0900

Update 5/02/09 0900 EDT

To the Emory Community:

The World Health Organization, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and state and local public health agencies continue to investigate and respond to an expanding outbreak caused by the H1N1 (swine) flu. The number of cases confirmed in the United States has increased to one hundred forty one (141) across nineteen states. There has been one reported death in Texas; public health experts are indicating it likely that the number and severity of cases in the US will increase and new geographic areas will be involved.

The CDC confirmed a case of swine flu on Thursday at the West Georgia Medical System Hospital in LaGrange, Georgia in Troup County. The confirmed case is located 75 miles southwest of Atlanta near the city of Columbus. Currently, there are no confirmed cases reported in the Metropolitan Atlanta area.

Emory is in regular communication with officials from the Georgia State Division of Public Health and the DeKalb and Fulton County Health Departments. There is active surveillance for suspected cases of H1N1 flu at the Emory hospitals and clinics and enhanced infection control procedures have been instituted. Should a case be confirmed in our community, Emory will act quickly to inform and advise on steps to help slow further spread of the virus.

As of Friday May 1, 5PM ET, all classes, final exams, operations and events are continuing as scheduled; however, the situation is dynamic, and subject to change should that be warranted by new developments.

Emory's preparedness and response activities

Emory is home to some of the nation's leading experts in infectious disease, public health, and emergency medicine. Emergency management committees have been convened to monitor the situation and make recommendations for action in both Emory Healthcare and Emory University. We are fortunate to have on our faculty and staff some of the very individuals who also consult with the CDC, the World Health Organization, and other public health agencies and bodies with regard to influenza and other infectious disease threats. Emory CEPAR (the Office of Critical Event Preparedness and Response) is ensuring a strong interface of the many resources of the University and that leaders have the best available information for planning and response.

Symptoms

Symptoms of swine influenza are similar to seasonal influenza and include fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headache, chills, and fatigue. Some people have also reported diarrhea and vomiting. Like seasonal flu, anyone with underlying chronic medical conditions may be more seriously impacted by swine flu.

What should I do if I get sick?

If you have recently traveled to an area with confirmed swine flu cases (<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/>) or you were exposed to someone with confirmed swine flu, and you are experiencing symptoms of the flu, you should contact

employee health and seek guidance from your personal healthcare provider. Students experiencing flu-like symptoms should contact Student Health Services at 404.727.7551 or online via Your Patient Portal at www.studenthealth.emory.edu to arrange for an appointment with a clinician. If you develop more serious signs and symptoms of illness, like chest pain, shortness of breath, severe persistent vomiting, or dizziness or confusion, medical care should be sought out immediately.

Employee Health Services

Employee Health Services has five (5) office numbers. Please communicate with the appropriate location based on your office location.

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|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| • Emory University Hospital | 404.686.8589 |
| • Emory University Hospital - Midtown | 404.686.8589 |
| • Wesley Woods | 404.728.6437 |
| • Orthopaedics and Spine Center | 404.251.3075 |
| • Grady Employee Health Services | 404.616.4600 |

General precautions

Please see the student and community health flyers available for download at http://www.emory.edu/home/CEPAR/Swine_Flu/index.html. Feel free to distribute them to friends and office-mates and post them in your building.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) is offering the following reminders regarding some general precautions everyone should follow to help stem the spread of all flu like illnesses, including swine influenza:

- Regularly wash your hands with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hand cleaners are also effective.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you sneeze or cough. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it. If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your elbow or upper arm, not your hand.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread this way.
- Try to avoid close contact with sick people
- Influenza is thought to spread mainly person-to-person through coughing or sneezing of infected people.
- If you get sick, CDC recommends that you stay home from work or school and limit contact with others to keep from infecting them.

Travel

At present the CDC has issued an advisory against non-essential travel to Mexico.

Additional information

The Office of Critical Event Preparedness and Response (CEPAR) and its partners across Emory will continue to monitor the situation, and will update as indicated by the rapidly evolving situation at www.emory.edu/CEPAR

Please refer to the Centers for Disease Control website for information, which will be regularly updated, at <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/>. Updated information is also available on the Georgia Department of Human Resources, Division of Public Health website <http://health.state.ga.us/swineflu/>